

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment before beginning examination of the above-identified patent application, and early favorable action by the Examiner.

After entry of this amendment, claims 1–31 will be pending. New claims 26–31 have been added and claims 1–5, 8, 10–16, 21, 22, and 24 have been amended to conform the nomenclature to proper claim drafting practice. Support for the claim amendments and the new claims may be found, for example, in the originally filed claims of application PCT/US2004/040197.


Enclosed is a check for \$1550 for the filing, search, examination, and extra claim fees. Applicants believe no additional fees are due. If any other fees are owed, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 07-1700.

The claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicant's attorney would expedite allowance of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned attorney at (617) 570-1806.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 1, 2006  
Reg. No.: 44,381

Tel. No.: (617) 570-1806  
Fax No.: (617) 523-1231

  
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Natasha C. Us  
Attorney for the Applicant  
Goodwin Procter LLP  
Exchange Place  
Boston, MA 02109